



Sarah Davis, left, and Becca Nielson are among Provo Canyon residents evacuated to Red Cross shelter.

PROVO

Snowslide forces closure of canyon

Tram system buried, and U.S. 189 shut down. Residents evacuated.

By Jeff Vice

Deseret News staff writer

PROVO CANYON — A massive snowslide in Provo Canyon buried the tram system for Bridal Veil Falls and caused Utah Highway Patrol officers to close both the Utah County and Wasatch County sides of U.S. 189 Wednesday morning.

Utah County Sheriff's spokesman Ron Fernstedt said the snowslide — which is estimated to be as wide as a half-mile and as deep as 60 feet — spilled onto the highway and into the Provo River shortly after 2 a.m., posing a potential threat for flooding. Because of that

threat, deputy sheriffs evacuated the Springdell subdivision in the canyon, temporarily leaving as many as 100 canyon residents homeless.

"All the snow has made the water rise to the level of the slide, and it could come rushing out at any time. We're just not sure how much of a surge we're going to get," Fernstedt said. The central Utah chapter of the American Red Cross has set up an emergency shelter for evacuated families at the LDS Church's Provo Edgemont South Stake Center.

Karen Campbell, director of emergency services for the local Red Cross chapter, said that nearly 40 people have checked into that shelter so far.

"We are providing a warm shel-

Please see **SNOWSLIDE** on A2

the United States supports Yeltsin or any other Russian leader on that pathway.

"We do not support any candidate in the Russian elections, nor do we see any individual as the guarantor of reform in Russia," Gore said at a news conference, with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin standing beside him.

"We support a set of principles, not a single individual," Gore added in response to a reporter's question.

Gore's statement amounts to hedging U.S. bets in case Yeltsin reverses himself on transforming

other measures that Chernomyrdin on Monday described as "corrections" in the social sphere.

Yeltsin, who is still deciding whether to seek re-election in June, is under pressure from a larger communist and nationalist presence in the Russian parliament. But he also is be pressed by liberals like Grigory Yavlinsky, a presidential contender who declared last week that "the era of Boris Yeltsin is over."

However, with the \$9 billion credit line due for decision in the International Monetary Fund in two weeks, President Clinton and

lie in his White House office. "I do support it strongly."

The administration also approved a separate \$1 billion loan for the Russian airline Aeroflot to begin construction of a fleet of new planes to replace its aging inventory, The Washington Post reported.

Gore spoke of the transformation of the Russian economy as approaching the point where the people who weathered the hardship of bold change now may begin to reap the benefits of free enterprise.

Novell's original investment in WordPerfect will be salvaged in large part by keeping GroupWise, a messaging system developed by WordPerfect. Frankenberg, who valued that technology at about \$800 million, said Corel will be a licensee of the technology.

"I think we have a wonderful set of networking capabilities and a larger installed base than Lotus Notes," he said, noting IBM paid \$3.5 billion for that product.

At the time Novell announced plans to dump WordPerfect, it blamed sagging financial performance on the business applications division, saying sales of the product hadn't met expectations.

Some industry watchers reacted favorably to Corel's decision to acquire WordPerfect.

"From its history it's not such a bad choice," said David Coursey, editor of PC Letter.

Corel understands how to make software as well as sell it, Coursey said.

That is exactly what Novell didn't understand, many observers say. Novell tried to merge the sales forces of the two companies. In addition to creating a clash of cultures, the results were abysmal.

Cowpland acknowledged that its advertising and sales focus is better suited for WordPerfect than was Novell's.



SNOWSLIDE

Continued from A1

ter and hot food, and we will be here as long as we are needed," Campbell said.

Utah Department of Transportation crews were in the canyon clearing debris and snow from the highway. And at the request of emergency crews, Bureau of Reclamation officials cut the water flow to Deer Creek Dam to try to relieve some of the pressure in the river.

In addition, initial reports indicate that much of the tram system at Bridal Veil Falls was covered and may have been destroyed during the snowslide. Fernstedt said emergency crews have spotted some of the tram's cable lines still in place, so officials are hoping damage to the tourist attraction has been minimal.

The only time the canyon was opened Wednesday morning was to allow the Springdell families to leave. Lt. Dick Casto, the emergency service division director for the Utah County Sheriff's department, toured the canyon Wednesday morning and has been evaluating the potential for other snowslides. At presstime, there was a possibility the canyon might remain closed for at least the rest of the day while emergency crews tried to reduce chances of flooding and further slides.

Also, sheriff's officials and UHP troopers have closed American Fork Canyon, while crews attempt to trigger controlled slides to mini-

mize danger in that canyon. Unlike Provo Canyon, though, American Fork Canyon has no residential developments, so no evacuations were necessary.

UDOT officials say this winter may pose more problems than 1993 when a 100-foot-wide avalanche pushed a semitrailer truck off the highway. They are monitoring Spanish Fork Canyon near Thistle and other problem areas to assess slide potential.

Highway patrol troopers and sheriff's officers are warning motorists traveling canyon roads to be ready for delays and to drive cautiously.

After days of wet snow, the storm is shifting southward, forecasters say.

Areas like Snowbird and Brighton received more than 1½ feet the white stuff since the snowfall began on Tuesday.

"We had just the ideal conditions here on the Front to have a prolonged period of snow," said William J. Alder, meteorologist in charge of the Salt Lake Forecast Office, National Weather Service.

Heavy snow warnings remained in effect in northern Utah and the mountains of southern Utah through Wednesday night. And Alder warned residents statewide to prepare for an upcoming blast of cold air, predicting highs in the 20s to shift to single digits as the weekend nears.

Storm totals include 8 inches in South Jordan; Brighton, 22 inches; Centerville, 9; Tooele, 6; and Ogden bench, 15.



ch gaming gadgets, failed to deliver a 60-foot yacht the Utahn had agreed to purchase. Redd says Doyle secured the bulk of the purchase price of the boat with 20 acres of the Washington County land, appraised at \$449,000 (more than half the original purchase price of the 2,440-acre tract).

Redd said he was never told there is a lis pendens on the property when he and Doyle reached agreement on the boat, and when he learned that title to the land was shaky because of the lis pendens, he refused to allow Doyle to take possession.

Doyle says Redd was aware of the lis pendens. He also claims there was a "gap" in the lis pendens when the state office took

Please see **LAND** on A2

ter 4½ seasons, putting in a performance that exceeds all expectations. Showing many of his familiar skills, Magic has 19 points and 10 assists in the Lakers' 128-118 victory over Golden State. **D1**

Feature

TANGO OF TRAUMA: Experts are trying to keep children from learning the steps to the abusive dance of domestic violence. **C1**

WEATHER



FORECAST: Mostly cloudy Thursday with a chance of snow. Highs near 30. Lows 15-20. See weather map for five-day outlook. **A8**

INDEX

BUSINESS	D6-8
CLASSIFIED ADS ...	B4-18
COMICS	C4, 5
COMMENT	A6, 7
DEATHS	D5
LOCAL	B1-3; A8
MOVIES	C7
SPORTS	D1-4
TELEVISION	C6

HOME DELIVERY, CIRCULATION: 237-2900